

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-53 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice and new Claims 21-53 are added by the present amendment. Support for new Claims 21-53 is found in the originally filed specification at least in Figures 4 and 7 and at page 4, line 22 to page 5, line 22, at page 14, lines 9-26, at page 15, lines 14-21 and at page 17, lines 6-8.

Consequently, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870
David A. Bilodeau
Registration No. 42,325

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 4213-3000
Fax: (703) 4213 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

EHK/DAB/RMR/cac